



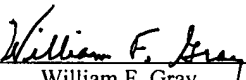
**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Appl. No.: 10/070,033 Confirmation No. 9908  
Applicant(s): Alonso-Alija, et al.  
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**CERTIFICATION OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any papers referred to as attached are being deposited, on the date shown below, with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 13 January 2004

  
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William F. Gray

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office action dated 15 July 2003. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 37 of this paper.